

Merry Christmas from SBARA!!

DECEMBER 2010
FREMONT, CA.

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 12

The Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Amateur Radio Association

Merry Christmas to all !!!

SBARA meeting will be January 14th.,
1011. See you then!!

SBARA Christmas

Party

Hurricane Electric Fremont

Dec 10th - 7:00 — ??

Free Raffle Tickets! Potluck Don't forget
your Dish (check your email for details).
Show and Tell Night!! Bring your cool
Project!!

SBARA's Board of Director and all of the
Club's Volunteers including our VE Team
for the wonderful task you undertook
this year making our Tri-City VE such a
great Success!!

On behalf of the Board and all Vol-
unteers, SBARA wishes you a Very Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

The 2010 SBARA Christmas Party is our
December event and the next regular



Christmas
2010



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Merry Christmas



Happy New Year

Merry Christmas from SBARA!!

SBARA's Holiday Potluck & Raffle Details

SBARA's December Potluck

Our December meeting will take on a different format. We are planning a pot-luck and home brew presentation evening on Friday, December 10th. If Hurricane Electric allows us to bring food, we will hold this event at our regu-

lar meeting place. Come and break bread with us, and if you have something to share, you will get a few minutes to demonstrate your latest home brew project. (please provide me with a short written intro when you come to the pot-luck.

SBARA's December Raffle

In keeping with the theme of our December meeting, the December raffle will also be pot luck. That's right; the prizes will be provided by you! This is a great time to look through your gear and cull out any items that you don't use but that another Ham might enjoy. For

each item you bring, you will receive one free raffle ticket. There will be one nice "grand" prize (Shhhhh, it's still a secret!) but the rest of the raffle is up to you. The more you bring, the more exciting our December raffle will be! Contact Robin, KI6YTA@arrl.net, if you have any questions.

SBARA Elections

SBARA Elections January!!!!

It's that time of the year again!! Now is your opportunity to help build the direction of SBARA for 2011 and beyond. If you have never run for a position, please consider doing so. You will receive help from the existing officers and board members.

Positions to be elected will be the Four (4) club officer positions. They include; President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Elections will take place in December during our monthly meeting.

Please consider becoming a leader in your Club!!!

Tri-City VE News

These are the dates that the Tri-City VE will offer Amateur Radio License tests during 2011.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day and Time</u>
January 15	Saturday 9 a.m.
February 8	Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
March 12	Saturday 9 a.m.
April 12	Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
May 14	Saturday 9 am
June 14	Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day and Time</u>
July 9	Saturday 9 a.m.
August 9	Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 10	Saturday 9 am
Oct.11	Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Nov.12	Saturday 9 a.m.
Dec.13	Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

Merry Christmas from SBARA!!

468: Ham Radio's Magic Number

Here in the U.S.—where we still measure length in feet—468 is a magic number. Why? Well, the formula for calculating the length, in feet, of a half-wave dipole antenna is:

$$L \text{ (ft)} = 468 / f \text{ (MHz)}$$

If you do the math, a half-wavelength is actually $492/f$, so where did the number 468 come from? The explanation most often given these days is that a radio wave travels about 5% slower in wire than it does in free space, so the distance that a radio wave would travel in a wire is about 5% less than it would travel in free space. Now, I don't know about you, but while I've used this formula for building dipoles, I've never had one tune up perfectly using that number. There are a number of reasons for this, the main one being the height above ground of the dipole. What I've found is that the elements of the dipole are usually longer than they need to be.

I sometimes joke that whoever came up with that number did so that hams wouldn't cut their dipoles too short. After all, it's much easier to make a length of wire shorter than it is to make it longer.

Ward, N0AX, wasn't satisfied with any of the common answers to where the number 468 came from. In the latest issue of QST, he consulted the materials in the ARRL li-

brary and found the answer.

The October 1926 issue of QST included an article titled, —The Length of the Hertz Antenna. (—Hertz antennall was the name most commonly used for a dipole in the early days of radio.) The author of that article constructed nine different dipoles and measured their resonant frequencies. He then calculated a value, K, by which you'd multiply the wavelength to get the wire length. If you multiply that number by 300, you'd get values ranging from 423 to 471. The number 468 first appeared in the 1929 ARRL Handbook.

For this article, N0AX did a number of simulations of a 20m dipole at various heights, ranging from $1/8$ wavelength to 2 wavelengths. He came up with numbers ranging from 466.4 to 483.4. This is somewhat at odds with my experience, although I must admit that I've never been able to get my dipoles up that high. That's my guess for why my dipoles are almost always shorter than $468/f$. At any rate, this article is certainly worth reading.

This article appeared in the September 2010 issue of The Radio Hill Gazette. The Radio Hill Gazette is the official publication of the Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club which can be found at <http://n9rjv.org>. The author's website can be found at www.kb6nu.com.

ANAHEIM, CA

(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
(714) 533-7373
(800) 854-6046
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaheim@hamradio.com

BURBANK, CA

1525 W. Magnolia Blvd., 91506
(818) 842-1786
(800) 854-6046
Eric, K6EJC, Mgr.
Magnolia between
S. Victory & Buena Vista
burbank@hamradio.com

OAKLAND, CA

2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

SAN DIEGO, CA

5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123
(858) 560-4900
(800) 854-6046
Jose, XE2SJB, Mgr.
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa
sandiego@hamradio.com

SUNNYVALE, CA

510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085
(408) 736-9496
(800) 854-6046
Jon, K6WV, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

NEW CASTLE, DE

(Near Philadelphia)
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720
(302) 322-7092
(800) 644-4476
Jim, KJ3N, Mgr.
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295
newcastle@hamradio.com

PORTLAND, OR

11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
97223
(503) 598-0555
(800) 854-6046
Leon, W7AD, Mgr.
Tigard-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217
portland@hamradio.com

DENVER, CO

8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231
(303) 745-7373
(800) 444-9476
John, W0IG, Mgr.
denver@hamradio.com

NEW LOCATION!**PHOENIX, AZ**

10613 N. 43rd Ave., 85029
(602) 242-3515
(800) 444-9476
Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.
Corner of 43rd Ave & Peoria
phoenix@hamradio.com

ATLANTA, GA

6071 Buford Hwy., 30340
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(800) 444-7927
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285
atlanta@hamradio.com

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(703) 643-1063
(800) 444-4799
Steve, W4SHG, Mgr.
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1
woodbridge@hamradio.com

SALEM, NH

(Near Boston)
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(603) 898-3750
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- 3 IF roofing filters

Call Now For Low Pricing!

Merry Christmas from SBARA!!

**South Bay Amateur
Radio
Association
Founded 1974
Mailing Address
Box 8401**

**Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401
Web Site — www.sbara.org**

President

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Photographer

Local Repeater & Net Information

WA6PWW -	147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5
WA6PWW -	223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2
WA6PWW -	442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2
K6AIR -	146.940 -600Khz, PL 123.0
K6AIR -	441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
ARES -	Tuesday @ 7:30pm - 147.015 + PL 103.5

SBARA Meeting Location

Our meeting location is at
Hurricane Electric.

The address in Fremont is:
760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.
Bring your HF transceiver, antenna) or HT !
Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

Also consider joining us at Wok City Diner
for Dinner at 6PM

Mingle with your fellow SBARA members !!

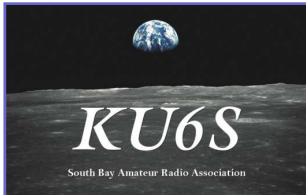
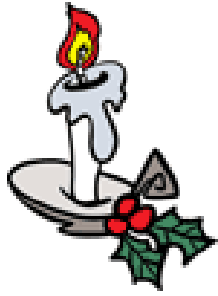
The **South Bay Amateur Radio Association** is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. The club has been in existence since 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, a California not-for-profit tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Stat-

utes. We sponsor training for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

SBARA meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fre-

mont, California. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

Merry Christmas from SBARA!!



Club Announcements

SBARA's December meeting is the 10th @
7:00PM.....Christmas Potluck and Raffle.

Our meeting location is at:

Hurricane Electric, 60 Mission Court Fremont, Ca.

Come to the meeting and bring your; Go Pack, HF
Rig, HT, and Antennas!!

Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

Great Holiday fun for all.....

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

P.O. Box 8401

Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401